

Jan. 30, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Brian G. Morin et al.
Serial Number: 09/178,396
Filed: October 23, 1998
For: Textile Fabric With Particle Attracting Finish
Group Art Unit: 1771
Examiner: Pratt, C.

Response to October 31, 2001 Office Action

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the October 31, 2001 Patent and Trademark Office Action, Applicants submit the following remarks and Petition & Fee for Extension of Time.

Remarks**Examiner's argument:**

Claims 1-5, 7-11 and 13-30 were rejected under 35USC§103(a) as being unpatentable over Yahiaoui et al. '567, in view of Morin et al. '189 or Zeidell '299.

Yahiaoui et al. disclose a fabric treated with applicants' claimed polymer coating, suitable for use as a wipe. Morin et al. and Zeidell teach laundering a wiping cloth to remove contaminants. Therefore, it would have been obvious to subject Yahiaoui et al.'s fabric having a polymer coating, to the laundering process taught by either Morin et al. or Zeidell. If the resulting laundered fabric did not have the claimed maximum particle count, then discovering the laundering conditions to meet such particle count involves only routine skill in the art.

The Examiner finds that the motivation to launder the fabric of Yahiaoui et al. according to the method of Morin et al. and Zeidell arises from the desire to remove contaminants and lint from the fabric. The motivation to reduce the particle count of the fabric arises from the desire to reduce contamination left behind after use.